

# ROUTE 66 WAS CERTIFIED IN 1926

WHEN THE NATION ADOPTED A NUMBERED SYSTEM OF CROSS COUNTRY, INTER-STATE ROADS. FULLY PAVED BY 1936, ROUTE 66 BECAME AN IMPORTANT & LEGENDARY HIGHWAY "IMMORTALIZED" IN LITERATURE, MUSIC, & ON TELEVISION. GRADUALLY "REPLACED" BY HUGE, HOMOGENEOUS "INTERSTATES," 66 WAS DECERTIFIED IN 1985, CEASING TO EXIST "OFFICIALLY," BUT WELL OVER 80% OF THE OLD ROAD IS STILL DRIVEABLE — SO, TRAVEL BACK IN TIME, & LEAVE THE STRESS BEHIND — ON THE INTERSTATES... AND THEN, YOU TOO WILL SAY: "I STILL GET MY KICKS, ON OLD ROUTE 66!"

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL • OLD IS BEAUTIFUL • SLOW IS BEAUTIFUL • SAFE IS BEAUTIFUL.

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

WALDMIRE, R.R. 2, BOX 110, ROCHESTER, ILLINOIS 62563

To:

(write small)

ZIP

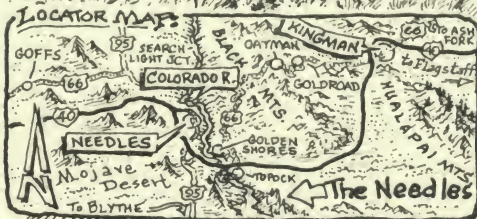
Still the best way west!  
TAKE OLD '66 ALMOST ALL THE WAY!  
MAIN STREET, USA - Chicago to L.A.!



RLU-2253

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ROUTE 66 CROSSED THE COLORADO RIVER ON THIS GRACEFUL BRIDGE, BUILT IN 1916, & THE FIRST TO CARRY AUTO TRAFFIC OVER THE RIVER IN THE AREA. THE BRIDGE - PAINTED WHITE - NOW CARRIES A GAS PIPELINE. THERE IS A PARKING AREA AT THE FOOT OF THE BRIDGE, ON THE ARIZONA SIDE, WHICH AFFORDS A CLOSE LOOK



**The Colorado River Basin;** LIKE AN EMERALD STRAND, WINDS THROUGH THE DESERT, BETWEEN LOW, JAGGED RANGES. THE RIVER'S BANKS & MARSHY LOWLANDS ARE HOME TO DENSE, LUSH THICKETS OF WILLOWS, TAMARISKS, COTTONWOODS, & REEDS. PROVIDING A VALUABLE HABITAT FOR MANY SPECIES. THE COLORADO RIVER IS AN IMPORTANT MIGRATORY FLYWAY FOR MANY SPECIES OF BIRDS. TWO GREAT DESERTS "INTERFACE" HERE: THE SONORAN & THE MOJAVE.



**THE "NEEDLES" VIEWED FROM TOPOCK, ARIZONA (ALT. 510 FT.)** — FACING SOUTH, ACROSS A BEND IN THE COLORADO RIVER, THIS CLUSTER OF VOLCANIC SPIRES REPRESENTS MAGMA THAT COOLED & HARDENED IN THE CONDUITS OF NOW-ERODED VOLCANOES. LONG AN IMPORTANT LANDMARK FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, & MORE RECENT SURVEYORS & TRAVELLERS. NEEDLES, CALIFORNIA WAS NAMED FOR THIS JAGGED RANGE. THE 1940 FILM "THE GRAPES OF WRATH" SHOWS AUTOS CROSSING THIS BRIDGE, WITH THE NEEDLES LOOMING ON THE HORIZON.

THIS IS A LOW, HOT DESERT RANGE, WITHIN THE BASIN & RANGE PROVINCE, WHICH ENCOMPASSES MUCH OF THE ARID SOUTHWESTERN U.S. & MOST OF MEXICO.

by R. Waldmire.

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